



**THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

STATEMENT

By the Delegation of Viet Nam

at the Sixth Committee of the 78th Session of the General Assembly

Agenda item 76

“Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission”

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Mr. Chair,

Viet Nam associates itself with the statement delivered by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and would like to deliver the following statement in its national capacity.

We would like to thank the Secretary-General for the comprehensive reports contained in documents A/78/275 and A/78/248 on the implementation of Resolution 77/98 by Member States and policies and procedures by the United Nations system pertaining to criminal accountability of UN officials and experts on mission.

Mr. Chair,

Viet Nam firmly believes that UN peacekeepers and personnel, while granted immunity in line with international law and agreements governing UN missions, must uphold the laws of the host country and their nation of nationality. This commitment is vital to ensure the effectiveness of their missions and to maintain the United Nations’ reputation, credibility, impartiality and integrity.

We reiterate our strong support for the UN Secretary-General’s “zero tolerance” policy concerning all forms of criminal activities, including cases of sexual exploitation and abuse involving UN officials and experts on mission. To ensure accountability, we believe it is essential to address the current jurisdictional gaps. States of nationality should bear the primary responsibility for exercising jurisdiction over serious crimes committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials, in accordance with the agreements between the respective State and the United Nations.

During the reporting period, we acknowledge that the Office of Legal Affairs referred a number of cases involving UN officials and experts on mission to the States of nationality for investigation and potential prosecution. The updated table detailing the nature of allegations and information received from States regarding these referrals serves as a valuable reference and a crucial step toward coordinating policies and procedures related to the reporting, investigation, referral, and follow-up of credible allegations of such crimes. We call upon all member states to take necessary measures, including adopting national legislation and enhancing international cooperation to ensure the perpetrators of the criminal activities among the UN officials and experts on mission do not go unpunished. Having said that, I would like to draw your attention to Viet Nam's legislative measures to give effect to its obligations under the UN Charter as well as other relevant instruments.

Viet Nam stands ready to collaborate with Member States and the United Nations in sharing information, conducting investigations into allegations involving Vietnamese nationalities serving in UN mission as officials and experts, in accordance with our national laws and relevant international commitments, following United Nations rules and procedures.

Mr. Chair,

In addition to countering measures, we recognize the importance of preventive measures. Strengthening training and vetting measures are equally crucial. We fully endorse the Secretary General's efforts to ensure mandatory pre-deployment training, induction training upon arrival, and refresher training to enhance awareness of UN personnel regarding UN standards of conduct. We also welcome ongoing improvements within UN entities to handle complaints and allegations against their international staff more effectively.

I thank you./.